

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

Street Address:
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670



Project Title: PG&E Vegetation Management Activities within the American River Parkway (Streambed Alteration Agreement No. 1600-2020-0014-R2)

Project Location: The project is located at the American River, in the County of Sacramento, State of California; Latitude 38.606815, 38.577853, and 38.559069 Longitude -121.504422, -121.418857, and -121.408767 or Section 25-34, Township 8N-9N, Range 4E-5E, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) map Sacramento West and Sacramento East, within PG&E right-of-way (ROW) which begins approximately 900 feet east of Interstate 5 and extends east for approximately 5.5 miles east just downstream of the Campus Commons Golf Course and J Street Bridge. The ROW also includes the 0.25-stretch just east of the Howe Avenue Bridge.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has executed Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-2020-0014-R2, pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, as represented by Robyn Mejorado.

The project is limited to PG&E's implementation of the phases 2 and 3 of its Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) program for its ROW in the American River Parkway (ARP). The high-level objection of the IVM program is to implement control methods to create low-growing, stable, native plant communities that are compatible with the intended use of the ROW which is the safe and reliable operation of bulk transmission facilities for transmission of energy. Within the ROW, PG&E intends to maintain a wire zone (typically 10-20 feet from the conductors) with a mix of herbaceous plants such as grasses, sedges, and forbs and limited low-growing woody shrubs. PG&E also intends to maintain a border zone (typically the remainder of the ROW after the wire zone) with compatible herbaceous and woody plants that do not pose a fall-in hazard to the powerlines. Phases 2 and 3 of the IVM include the following activities authorized by this Agreement: herbicide treatments, hand-cutting of vegetation, quality control inspections, and identifying/removing Danger Trees.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying out Project: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Exempt Status:

Categorical Exemption. Type – Class (1); California Code of Regulations, title 14, section (15301(b))

Reasons why project is exempt: The project serves to maintain existing facilities of invested owned utilities uses to provide electric power. It involves negligible or no expansion of existing or former use, as the Permittee will maintain its existing right-of-way.

CDFW Contact Person: Dylan Wood, Environmental Scientist at 916-358-2384

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Kelley Barker
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Signature: _____ Date: 9/15/2020
Kelley Barker, Environmental Program Manager